Serial No. 09/207,188 Amdt. dated March 17, 2004 Reply to Final Office Action of April 9, 2003 &

Reply to Final Office Action of A Advisory Action of Nov. 5, 2003

MAR 17 2004

IN THE UNIT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Milan S. Blake, et al.

Group Art Unit:

1645

Serial No.:

09/207,188

Examiner:

DEVI, S.

Filed:

December 8, 1998

For:

GROUP A STREPTOCOCCAL POLYSACCHARIDE IMMUNOGENIC COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS

Amendment

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of <u>April 9, 2003</u> and Advisory Actions dated <u>September 23, 2003</u> and <u>November 5, 2003</u>, applicants present the following amendment and remarks for the above-identified patent application. Applicants direct the entrance of the responses to the Final Office Action and Advisory Actions dated September 9, 2003 and October 9, 2003. It is respectfully requested that the amendments and remarks herein be considered at the time of examination of the instant patent application.

In addition, a Petition for an Extension of Time (5 months) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(b) are filed herewith to extend the time for response until April 9, 2004.

Please amend the specification and claims according to the last entered amendment as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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